



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2006

Contact: Stephanie Tax, Highways & Local Programs Division, (360) 705-7389

WSDOT Announces Record 148 Enhancement Projects Funded

OLYMPIA – Transportation Secretary Doug MacDonald today announced the selection of 148 projects across the state for allocating a total of almost \$42 million in federal transportation “enhancement” funding.

Transportation “enhancement” funds are received by each state as a portion of overall federal transportation funding. Under federal law, these particular funds must be used in 12 specific categories. A broad-based committee under a competitive process administered by WSDOT selects winning projects. Funding categories include:

1. Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.
2. Provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists.
3. Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites.
4. Scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities).
5. Landscaping and other scenic beautification.
6. Historic preservation.
7. Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals).
8. Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails).
9. Control and removal of outdoor advertising.
10. Archaeological planning and research.
11. Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity.
12. Establishment of transportation museums.

“These projects will spring up in communities all across the state, improving transportation facilities in ways that strengthen local quality of life,” said Secretary Macdonald. “We are pleased that federal funding brings us these opportunities and that our communities compete so vigorously to put their projects on the funded list.”

MacDonald added, “It’s always exciting to sign off on the final project lists, knowing that the selection committee has worked so hard to bring forward the best possible list of projects from the hundreds that are proposed. We thank everyone, from the members of Congress who support the project funding, to the local groups who assemble their project

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March 13, 2006

applications, to our hard-working selection committee. In the end, every selected project will make Washington State a more attractive place to live, work and bring up a family.”

WSDOT’s Director of Highways and Local Programs, Kathleen Davis, thanked the committee members for their steadfast approach in developing an equitable selection of projects that will benefit communities across the state. Among the 148 projects funded statewide are:

- **Benton County** – Horse Heaven Vista Improvements – \$268,000 to improve a parking lot, signage and educational kiosks adjacent to SR 221 in the Horse Heaven Hill, south of Prosser.
- **Chelan County** – Manson Sidewalks – more than \$155,000 to construct sidewalks along SR 150 within the community of Manson.
- **Clallam County, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe and Jefferson County** – The Olympic Discovery Trail – three projects totaling more than \$500,000 for separate portions of the trail.
- **Clark County** – Confluence Land Bridge – more than \$1.5 million to construct an earth-covered bridge over SR 14 linking the Fort Vancouver National Historic Reserve and the Columbia River waterfront.
- **King County** – King Street Station – more than \$1 million to restore the station’s expanded waiting room.
- **Okanogan County** – Galleher House – more than \$300,000 to purchase the nationally registered Galleher house and move it from Bridgeport to Pateros for use as a tourist/welcome center and transportation museum.
- **Snohomish County** – Centennial Trail Extension – \$862,000 to acquire additional rail corridor parcels along the Centennial Trail Extension.
- **Spokane County** – Harvard Road Pedestrian Crossing – \$380,000 to construct a pedestrian bridge over the westbound on-ramp.
- **Spokane County** – Hillyard Railroad Museum – more than \$270,000 to establish a museum and enhance the entrance to the Great Northern Railroad Yard and Round House.
- **Yakima County** – Heritage Trails: William O. Douglas, Cowlitz, and Upper Nisqually Trails – nearly \$500,000 for the three trails, including installation of-trailhead signs, restoration of the Naches River Bridge, and right-of-way acquisition along the William O. Douglas Trail.
- **Yakima County** – William O. Douglas Trail – more than \$327,000 for a one-mile pathway along 6th Ave. adjacent to the historic Yakima Valley Electric Railway Line, and construction of a pathway over the Naches River Bridge.

The Statewide Transportation Enhancement Committee met in January 2006 to review the projects. More than 300 project applications, requesting a total of nearly \$128 million, were submitted. The committee reviewed the projects and submitted its list of projects to Secretary MacDonald, who approved the committee recommendations. The committee consists of representatives from cities, counties, Indian Nations, and WSDOT; as well as representatives from pedestrian, bicycle, trail, historic and scenic special interest groups. The Committee report, including a summary and list of all funded projects, is online at: [www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/ProgMgt/Grants/2006 TE Program.pdf](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/ProgMgt/Grants/2006_TE_Program.pdf).

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**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Douglas B. MacDonald
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March 9, 2006

Mr. Joel Ristau
County Engineer
Asotin County
P. O. Box 160
Asotin, WA 99402-0160

Re: Transportation Enhancement Program

Dear Mr. Ristau:

We are pleased to advise you that the Secretary of Transportation has approved the following project for funding through the Federal Transportation Enhancement Program:

Scenic Way Pedestrian/Bike Facility (Design) \$90,000

Federal-aid funding for this project will be limited to the above amount. The federal share is 100 percent and requires no matching funds.

To obligate funding for this project, submit your agreement/prospectus and any other items to your Regional Local Programs Engineer. Projects utilizing federal funds must be included in your current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Unless significant environmental issues are evident, the project will be included in the statewide enhancement bucket in the STIP and an amendment will not be necessary.

Project expenditures are not eligible for reimbursement until after we provide notice that funds are obligated. Please be reminded that one of the selection criteria was to be able to obligate this project by March 1, 2007. We urge you to proceed in obligating funds for this project at the earliest possible date.

This program does require quarterly progress reports. These reports must be submitted until your project is complete and the agreement closed. The reports are due by the end of the following months: February, May, August, and November. Please submit your completed report form by email to Stephanie Tax at taxs@wsdot.wa.gov.

Should you have any questions on how to pursue this project, please contact Roger Arms, your Regional Local Programs Engineer at (509) 577-1780.

Sincerely,

Kathleen B. Davis
Director, Highways & Local Programs

cc: Roger Arms, South Central Region Local Programs Engineer
Ken Olson, Executive Director, Palouse Economic Development Council